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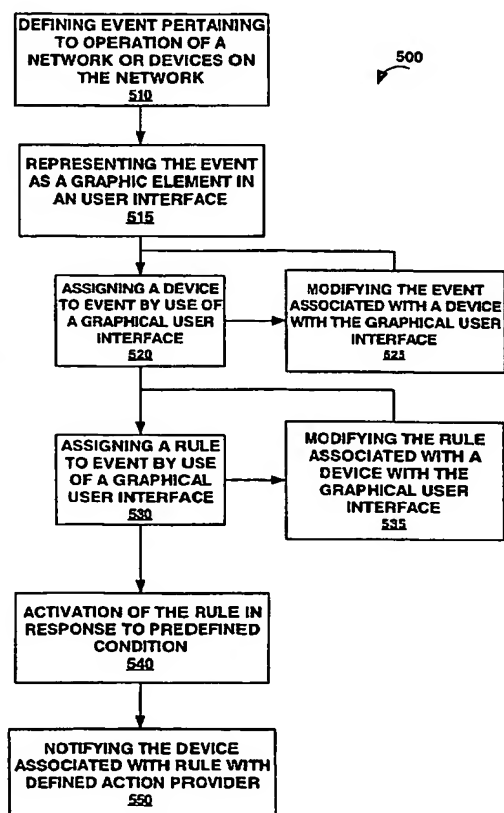
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **ASSOCIATING NOTIFICATIONS OF THE STATUS OF A DATA NETWORK BY USE OF A TOPOLOGY EDITOR**



(57) **Abstract:** A method for assigning an event to a device (520) on a network is described by using a topology editor as user-controlled interface. The event is represented as a labeled graphic indication (515). Other devices on a data network, also represented graphically, are to be assigned to the event by using the user-controlled interface (525). A rule is then defined and associated with the event (530). When a condition, as defined by the rule is met by an application or device on the network (540), all of the devices assigned to the event are notified of the condition met by the rule (550) in accordance with such graphically defined relationships.